The number of "Air-miss" incidents

296. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJI-RAO SHINDE: SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR: SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of "Air-miss" incidents in the Indian skies, since the mid-air collision between two planes (a Saudi and a Kazhak Plane) near Delhi at Charkhi Dadri in December last and the details thereof and

(b) what steps have since been taken to make air travel more safe to avoid any chances of such mid-air collisions?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CM. IBRAHIM): (a) Six 'Air-miss' incidents have been reported in the Indian skies since the mid-air collision between the two planes on 12.11 .96. The details are as follow:

1. Between KLM 807 and UAE 082 on 16.11.96.

2. Between IC-839 Airbus 320 and VVT, IAF Boeing-737 on 3.1.97.

3. Between IC 168 and Al 308 both operating sector Bombay-Delhi on 4.1.97.

4. Between Alliance air CD 257 and Jet Air 612 on 9.1.97.

5. Between Kuwait Airways KAC 365 and Air Lanka ALK 505 on 11.1.97.

6. Between Malayasian Airlines flight MAS 6125 and Singapore Airlines flight SIA 422 on 17.1.97.

(b) The main steps taken to avoid chances of mid-air collision are: (i) Refresher courses to update professional knowledge of Air Traffic Controllers, (ii) Periodical proficiency checks if Air Traffic Controllers, (iii) Monthly random inalysis of ATC tape transcripts to ensure that \ir Traffic Controllers use standard rfiraseology and folldw the laid down procedure vhile giving instruction to aircraft, (iv) Appropriate action against Air Traffic Control Officers (ATCO) involved in ATC incidents, (v) Modernisation of Air Traffic services at Delhi and Mumbai airport, and (vi) proper maintenance of negivational communication and landing facilities.

Inflight announcement in Tamil

297. SHRI S. NIRAIKULATHAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state whether Government would consider providing inflight announcements in Tamil in all Indian Airlines and Air India flights taking off or landing in Chennai or any city in Tamil nadu on the lines of Singapore and Malaysian Airlines?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CM. IBRAHIM): No, Sir. Since Indian Airlines and Air India are not operating their flights on regional basis, it is not practically possible to provide cabin crew having knowledge of each regional language. However, Air India have pre-recorded in-flight announcements in Tamil on Chennai/Singapore Sector which were introduced a few years ago.

Burning down of the Boeing Terminal of Delhi Airport

298. DR. KARAN SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) what was the cause of the burning down of the Boeing Terminal of Delhi airport recently; and

(b) when would the new terminal at Delhi be completed so as to provide necessary facilities for national and international aviation?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CM. IBRAHIM): (a) The Enquiry Committee could not establish the exact cause of the fire. The Enquiry Report states that it is difficult to establish the cause of the out-break of fire in the area above the false ceiling since the damage is so extensive that the entire building has literally collapsed in the shortest possible time because of the steel structure and most of the contents of the building have been consumed in the fire.